

No. RW/NHIII/COORD/87/84

Dated the 22nd May, 1984

To

All Chief Engineers dealing with National Highways in the States and Union Territories

Subject : Review of the functioning of bypasses and the need to protect them from ribbon development

A number of bypasses have been constructed at villages, towns and cities on the National Highway system in the past three decades at considerable cost. The purpose of the bypasses is to ensure free and smooth flow of through traffic, avoiding the congested and accident-prone sections through the habitations. It has, however, been observed that, once constructed, these bypasses attract growth of the town along their alignment, soon leading to ribbon development and obstructions from cross-traffic, deterioration in the level of service and reduced safety. The situation at some of the bypasses has so deteriorated that another bypass has become necessary. In order to prevent such situations, it is necessary to take adequate planning and regulatory measures immediately as set forth below.

2. To take a complete stock of the situation, it is first of all necessary to prepare a full inventory of the bypasses on the National Highway system, collecting the information detailed in Appendix I. This will be the basis for all future planning and regulatory measures. The inventory may please be completed and sent to the Ministry within three months, i.e. by the end of August, 1984.
3. The inventory would reveal that some bypasses can be even now saved from further deterioration if the following immediate measures are taken :
 1. Removing encroachments.
 2. Provision of parallel service roads to take care of the local traffic.
 3. Restricting entry of cross-roads only at selected and predetermined locations selectively.
 4. Enforcing planning measures such as 'building lines' and 'control lines' rigidly.

The construction of the parallel service roads is the responsibility of the State Governments as they serve local needs and benefit local users and abutting property owners. The Seventh Five Year Plan for Roads in the State Sector should give a high priority with an earmarked outlay for this purpose. This may please be ensured.

4. It is requested that wide publicity be given to the instructions contained in this circular to all engineers at various levels and the desired information is furnished to the Ministry.

APPENDIX-I

INVENTORY OF BYPASSES

STATE :

S.No.	N.H. No.	Name of village town or city	Year of construction of bypass	Length of bypass (km)	Land width (m)	Carriage-way width (m)	Whether service roads exist	Number of access points on each side		Whether ribbon development has taken place	Whether there are encroachments	Whether there are properly designed inter-sections	Suggestions for improving the Operational characteristics of the facility	Approximate cost of improvement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
								side	side	(1) Partly (2) Fully (3) Not taken place				